

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Page 2, delete the first full paragraph and insert the following paragraph:**

A1  
Heretofore, a color CRT monitor, a color liquid crystal monitor and the like and a color printer and the like have been popularized and each has widely been used as an image input/output device (hereinafter referred to simply as "image I/O device") of a color image.

**Page 6, delete the first full paragraph and insert the following paragraph:**

A2  
In still another case, Unexamined Published Japanese Patent Application (kokai) No. 7-12283 proposes to establish a correspondence to a different color reproducing ~~spaces~~ space by constructing a model of the color reproducing space using a finite element method, inputting an elastic modulus to generate an elastic deformation. However, it is necessary to input the elastic modulus for each minute area of the finite element and, moreover, to adjust/specify the elastic modulus by the customer; therefore, it is troublesome to perform such adjusting/specifying work and also it is difficult to establish the correspondence to a transformed color.

**Page 9-10, delete the paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10 and insert the following paragraph:**

A3  
The present invention has solved the above-described problems and has ~~an~~ a first object of providing a method of compressing/extending a color reproducing space which, when forms or sizes of color reproducing spaces of image I/O devices are different from each other and a correspondence is established between such different color reproducing spaces, is capable of maintaining a color gamut in a smooth manner, establishing a correspondence between image I/O devices which are different in the color reproducing spaces from each other while preserving

Q3 the initial color appearance or gradation and further easily adjusting the correspondence in accordance with preference.

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**Page 10, delete the second full paragraph and insert the following paragraph:**

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Q4 Moreover, the present invention has a third object of providing a color reproducing apparatus which can ~~embodies~~ embody the color reproducing method according to the present invention.

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**Page 35, delete the first full paragraph and insert the following paragraph:**

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Q5 The lightness correcting section 22 is a section which corrects lightness of a color gamut  $R_1'$  obtained by compressing the color gamut  $R_1$  in the chroma compression/extension processing section 20 on the same hue plane. Such a lightness value correction to be performed in the same hue plane does not ~~executes~~ execute correction, when the chroma value is 0, and corrects the highest chroma point of the color gamut  $R_1'$  to the common region highest chroma point  $P_3$  which is the highest chroma point of the common region  $R_3$  of the color gamuts  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  such that a lightness correction, amount changes in a non-linear manner as the chroma value becomes higher, when the chroma value is between more than 0 and the chroma value  $S_c$  of the common region highest chroma point  $P_3$ . The lightness value of color gamut  $R_1'$  obtained by compressing the color gamut  $R_1$  is corrected in such a way as described above to obtain a color gamut  $R_1''$  in which the highest chroma point  $P_1$  coincides with the common region highest chroma point  $P_3$  of the common region  $R_3$ .

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**Page 48, delete the first full paragraph and insert the following paragraph:**

26 The transformation curve  $D_1$  can be obtained by adopting the equation (1) in which the chroma value with a chroma value range of 0 to  $S_{max1}$  is divided by the chroma value  $S_{max1}$  and ~~standardized~~ standardized in a range  $X$  of between 0 to 1 and the chroma value to which the initial data is to be transformed is also divided by the chroma value  $S_{max1}$  and standardized in a range of  $F$  of between 0 to 1. In this case,  $k = S_c/S_{max1}$  in the equation (1). This is because, when  $X = 1$  is assigned,  $F$  becomes  $k$ , namely,  $F = k$ ; therefore, in the above embodiment, " $X = 1$ " is transformed into  $S_c/S_{max1}$ .

**Page 54, delete the second full paragraph and insert the following paragraph:**

27 Since the compression/extension processing of the color reproducing space comprises the steps described above, ~~the~~ a correspondence to a different image I/O device can be established while maintaining the color gamut in a smooth manner and preserving the initial color appearance and gradation.

**Page 66-7, delete the paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10 and insert the following paragraph:**

28 However, when ordinary image data of, for example, CG image, digital camera image or the like enter as a monitor image, ~~these~~ this image is not compressed so that, if ~~these~~ this image is outputted into the printer, extension from the database B to the database A is only executed and, as a result, an inappropriate print reproduction occurs.

**Page 67, delete the last full paragraph and insert the following paragraph:**

29 The database BA producing device 66 transforms the color gamut of the monitor 58 into within the color gamut of the printer 56 while maintaining the gradation to produce BA database. This database BA is produced in the same manner as that in the database AB.

**Page 71, delete the first full paragraph and insert the following paragraph:**

30 First of all, ~~Taking~~ taking the output value  $Lab_A$  of the database A as the output value of the database BA, the ~~transformation~~ transformation in the database BA is inversely operated to obtain an input to obtain an input value  $RGB_B$  of the database BA. Next, taking the thus obtained input value  $RGB_B$  of the database BA as an input value of the database B, the output value  $Lab_{,,}$  of the database B is determined.